

B. Amendment to the Abstract

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A Disclosed is a method of manufacturing a diffractive optical element, including a process for forming a resist mask of blazed shape upon a substrate and for etching the substrate by use of the resist mask so that the blazed shape is transferred to the substrate. The method includes a process for forming, before the etching, an element being effective to prevent a taper shape, to be produced at an edge of the blazed shape of the resist mask, from being transformed to the substrate.